

Letter from Gardiner Greene Hubbard to Alexander Graham Bell, February 15, 1877, with transcript

Letter from Gardiner Greene Hubbard to Alexander Graham Bell. SPECIAL COMMISSION ON RAILWAY MAIL TRANSPORTATION. 711 14th Street, Washington, D. C. February 15, 1877. Dear Mr. Bell:

I have your favor of the 13th inst., with the Globe report. We are of course exceedingly interested in the account of your lecture at Salem on Monday. I think it may be well for you to repeat it once more at Salem or Lynn, but I would not do so under a fortnight. Let Mr. Richards advertise the lecture at once in one of the papers. The price of admission should not be less than 50 cents or more if Mr. Richard thinks that they will stand it. The objection to having the lecture earlier than that is that it excites the interest of people in the Telephone and their desire to purchase the instruments before we are able to satisfy the excitement or meet the demand. If you give the notice a fortnight in advance, it will attract the attention of people and keep it before their eyes. Every lecture that you deliver must also occupy time and thought which can be more profitably spent in perfecting your invention.

I think very well of the proposition of Gov. Howard to organize a company to include both the American and foreign patents and if you and Mr. Sanders and Mr. Watson will contribute a proportion, I will also give a portion of my interest in it. There should, however, be no time lost for Mr. Ponton will soon be here with his propositions which we shall be obliged to receive 2 with favourable attention.

I cannot well go on to Boston, but I will meet Gov. Howard, Mr. Converse, Mr. Sanders and yourself almost any day you will fix in New York.

You should keep a number of copies of the Globe on hand to show to parties.

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I am, Yours truly, Gardiner G. Hubbard.